

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 18 & 19, 2019

<b>SAT 18<sup>th</sup></b>	5:00 PM	Traditional Worship
<b>SUN 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM 10:15 AM	Traditional Worship Sunday school End of Year Awards <b>June/July Newsletter deadline!</b>
<b>TUE 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Quilting/Crocheting/Knitting <b>Bulletin Announcements Due</b> Property Committee Meets
<b>WED 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Contemporary Crew rehearsal Walking Club meets at Foli
<b>THUR 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	6:00 PM	Craft night with Ruth Ann
<b>SAT 25<sup>th</sup></b>	5:00 PM	Contemporary Worship
<b>SUN 26<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship

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## Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Black  
[firstplanopastor@gmail.com](mailto:firstplanopastor@gmail.com)  
Phone: 815-677-3101

## Church Office

Secretary: Jerri Lynn Baker  
[Firstoffice200@gmail.com](mailto:Firstoffice200@gmail.com)  
**Office:** 630-552-8263  
**Fax:** 630-552-7198

## Treasurer

Nan Grommes  
Email: [nangrommes@gmail.com](mailto:nangrommes@gmail.com)

## Financial Secretary

Ruth Ann Hoehn  
Email: [secretaryflc0@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryflc0@gmail.com)

## Missionaries:

Rev. Cynthia Holder Rich & Mark Rich in Tanzania. MandCinTZ.com

**Church Website:** [www.firstlutheranchurchplano.com](http://www.firstlutheranchurchplano.com)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/FirstLutheranChurchOfPlanoII>

**Radio Ministries:** Worship service airs on WSPY 107.1 FM Sundays at 10 AM.

**WELCOME TO HOLY COMMUNION** *All baptized Christians are invited to partake in Holy Communion. We believe in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ as we receive the bread and wine. Children and adults who are not communing are invited to come forward for a blessing. If you are unable to come forward, please notify the ushers. Please complete a Communion card located in the pew and hand it to the Usher on your way to Communion.*

## SERVING GOD TODAY

**PRESIDING MINISTER** - Pastor Jonathan Black

### Sat - 5:00 PM

### Sun - 9:00 AM

<b>Acolyte</b>		Sara Nicoletti
<b>Assisting</b>	Wally Hamlin	Elianna Black
<b>Reader</b>	Wally Hamlin	Nan Grommes
<b>Greeters</b>	Sue Huston	Virginia Phelps James Johnson
<b>Ushers</b>	Steve Benoit Kathy Benoit	Randy Jensen
<b>Counters</b>	Randy Jensen Joan Triantafillou	Randy Jensen
<b>Musicians/Vocal</b>	Gloria Gilbertson	Nan Grommes
<b>Radio Tech.</b>	Jim Porter	
<b>Altar Care</b>	Laura Nicoletti & Diane Kupp	
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Ed Coates & JoAnn Gryder	
<b>Coffee Fellowship</b>	Caring for Creation	

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AWARDS TODAY** at 10:15 AM the children will sing, receive awards and meet their Secret Pals. Everyone is invited to attend. This will bring to a close Sunday school for summer. We hope you enjoy your summer and don't forget First Lutheran this summer.



### **CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRADUATION!**

Melissa Phillips completed her Master's from Virginia Polytechnic Institute! Please be sure to congratulate her when you see her.

**PLANO HIGH SCHOOL BACCALAUREATE** The Class of 2019 Baccalaureate will be held today (Sunday), May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the high school auditorium. It is a non-denominational service. All are invited to attend the special service and celebrate the graduates' personal growth and achievements. Graduates should wear their cap and gown.

**SUMMER SCHEDULES** TODAY is the deadline for the **JUNE/JULY** Newsletter! All meeting schedules are needed **TODAY** for all, including Council, Committee and Group meetings. PLEASE let Jerri Lynn know whether you will meet at your regular times this summer, June – August.



**WALKING CLUB!** The Walking Club walks at Foli Park, every Wednesday at 6:00PM, weather permitting. It's a nice little jaunt on a paved path around the lake. Come join us for some fresh air and a little activity.

**FROM THE KENDALL COUNTY FOOD PANTRY!**

Dear 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church Members, THANK YOU for all the wonderful donations of shoes! Our clients, our neighbors in need will so appreciate your generosity and kindness. What a beautiful gesture too "The Barefoot Weekend" symbolizes. Blessings to all of you! Peace



**CORE VALUES**

On Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:15 AM for 30-45 minutes we will have the kickoff for our program for mission. All are invited to attend and learn about the program and a brief training session for

those who will help lead the conversations. This program will be successful based on the participation of those who call First Lutheran their home. We will learn more of what God is doing at First Lutheran and gain excitement for what God might do next. Pastor Black

**WHAT DO YOU VALUE?** First Lutheran is asking all of its members to participate in sharing what you value so the church might be strengthened in its programming and its mission. What is asked of you is to participate in one of 2 options, either a 4 session Bible study or 4 session small group experience. Times for opportunities will be coming. If you have a desire to help in a conversation please let Pastor know. If you are asked to help with a conversation please consider saying yes. This program is primarily about sharing what has been important to you. There are no right or wrong answers. The only way this program will not succeed is in a lack of participation. We are excited about what we can learn about ourselves and how we can grow as a community of faith.



**CRAFT NIGHT** This Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-8:30PM, come and go as you please, bring what you want to work on. Come and enjoy the talents and company of others. Ruth Ann will be here, if you have questions. This is a time to work on your own projects, not be led by anyone.

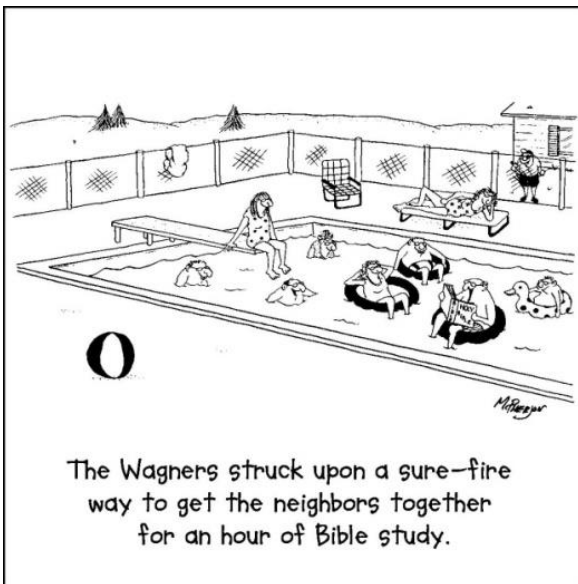
**REGISTRATION FOR VBS!** Registration forms are on the table outside the church office. **Please pick one up today, fill in your information and return it to Kathy Benoit.** VBS will be held from 5:30-8:00PM Mon., July 8<sup>th</sup> – Thurs., July 11<sup>th</sup>.



**HELPERS NEEDED!** Please pray about helping our VBS program by volunteering to help in classrooms, with crafts, playing various instruments (guitar or piano), teaching, science section and storytelling. Contact Kathy or Steve Benoit (benoits4@sbcglobal.net) if you can help in ANY WAY!

**COMMUNITY SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM** Once again First Lutheran will help serve summer lunches in the park to children 18 and under. It will start on Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Check you June/July issue of the Anchor, (the Church's newsletter), when it comes out for complete details.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Paul & Cindy Alsup, Maralina Angarone, Sherry Anderson, Lori Black, Alice Crawford, Sue Hyte, Sherry Ill, Linda Landis, Marty Lincoln, Fred McAllister, Mary Olson, Karla Reinbolt and Dorella Wilson.





## **THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF**

As the Sunday school year comes to a close we want to offer our sincere gratitude to all of our Teachers and Helpers for everything they do for our children.

Preschool – Kalyn Murre

K & 1<sup>st</sup> – Laura Agajanian, Mary McHugh & Priscilla Zitt

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Donielle Anderson

3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Kathy Benoit & Karen DeBolt

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Anne Sears

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade/Confirmation – Pastor Black

High School – Ryan Phillips

Elementary Music – Joanne Johnson

Secretary/Treasurer – Jane Hyte

Superintendent – Kathy Benoit



**Looking Ahead to May 25 & 26, 2019**

	<b><u>5:00 PM</u></b>	<b><u>9:00 AM</u></b>
<b>Acolyte</b>	Steve Benoit	Sara Nicoletti
<b>Assisting</b>	Steve Benoit	Elianna Black
<b>Readers</b>	Diane Kupp	Nan Grommes
<b>Greeters</b>	Joan Triantafillou	Virginia Phelps James Johnson
<b>Counters</b>	Mary Kay Pilmer Randy Jensen	Virgil Hyte Randy Jensen
<b>Ushers</b>	Wally Hamlin Sue Huston	Virgil Hyte Randy Jensen
<b>Radio Tech</b>	Jim Porter	
<b>Altar Care</b>	Laura Nicoletti & Diane Kupp	
<b>Altar Flowers</b>	Ed & JoAnn	

**OFFERING REPORT**

	<b><u>May 11 &amp; 12, 2019</u></b>	<b><u>Year to Date</u></b>
Total Offerings	\$ 4,110.00	
-8.5% to ELCA	<u>\$ 349.35</u>	
General Fund Income	\$ 3,760.65	\$ 68,315.99
Need per week	\$ 3,957.80	\$ 75,126.13
Over or (Short)	\$	\$ (6,810.14)
<b><u>Checking Account</u></b>	(includes General and Benevolence)	
Jan. 1 Balance	\$ 1,961.91	
<b>Income</b>	\$ 81,715.59	
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 77,631.29</u>	
May 13 Balance	\$ 6,046.21	
<b>General Fund Income</b>	Income through <u>5/12/2019</u>	Income through <u>5/13/2018</u>
<i>(15 weeks)</i>	\$ 68,315.99	\$ 65,180.88
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>
	26	78

Dearly Beloved,

Grace and Peace to you. What we call “Heaven” is not the afterlife, not a gated community in the clouds for good people. Heaven is not later but now, not “up,” but *in*. Heaven is not elsewhere but really, radically *here*, here and now. “Heaven” is our sort of elegant word for the heart of God, the Divine Presence that gives rise to all existence, the essence of being that is love that throbs within every created thing. Heaven is the mystery of God dwelling within us. Heaven is the love that is the Truth of It of everything. It is the Divine Unity, the Holy One that is all. Yeah, it’s a mouthful, and a mind-bender. That’s why we shorten it to “heaven.”

Jesus calls it the Empire of God. He says this Divine Reality is all around us and within us, “at hand” and “among you.” It’s the energy of God in everything, every moment, every process. And it’s pure love. Jesus invites us to be in harmony with that energy, to “enter into the kingdom.”

That love, that healing oneness, that life-giving grace, is present for us, available to us all the time. Even in our worst moments and our narrowest passages it is here: Love within us and we within it. God offers it to us without cost or requirement. All we have to do is be there.

Of course when we get caught up in the anxieties and sufferings of this world such a splendid heaven seems far away. But that’s exactly when Jesus says the gate is most present, the gate open widest. It’s on the cross, after all, when he says, “Today you shall be with me in paradise.”

Bring to mind your anxieties and sufferings, or those of ones you care about. Imagine God is offering God’s healing, life-giving Presence, God’s unifying grace, right in the middle of that awfulness. Not promising that after you die it’ll get better, but that there’s another reality right here. With that in mind, meditate on these words from John’s Revelation (Rev. 21.1-6). Read them over and over. Haul your pain into this blessing. Stay there and see what happens.

*See, the home of God is among mortals.*

*God will dwell with them as their God; they will be God’s peoples,  
and God will be intimately with them.*

*God will wipe every tear from their eyes.*

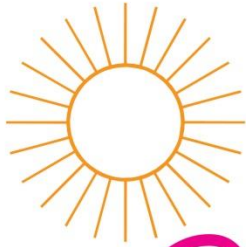
*Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.*

*And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.  
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.*

*To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”*

Deep Blessings, Pastor Steve

Steve Gamaas-Holmes *Unfolding Light* [www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)



*Stay Close*

TO

*God*

THIS

*Summer*

